

Telephone Adalats

*804. SHRI. PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a). whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited has been holding Telephone Adalats regularly;

(b). if so, the details thereof;

(c). whether any time limit has been fixed to deal with the grievances of subscribers after these are brought before these Adalats;

(d). if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e). whether cases dealt with in these Adalats are well publicised through press to encourage large Participation by subscribers; and

(f). if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI. RAJESH PILOTA): (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. So far 16 and 12 Telephone Adalats have been held since 1987 by Delhi and Bombay units respectively.

(c) and (d). Most of the cases are settled on or before the Adalat day. Cases requiring additional investigations are settled subsequently after due investigations. In rare cases of excess billing complaints where very detailed and vigilance enquiries are required, the case settlement may take more time.

(e) and (f): Before holding each Adalat wide publicity is given through leading Dailies notifying about the Telephone Adalat.

Again after holding each Adalat Press Release is issued in all leading Dailies giving information about the number of cases dealt with.

Insurgency in North-East Region

*805. SHRI. RABI RAY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a). whether the activities of various insurgent groups are increasing in the North-Eastern Region of the country;

(b). if so, the details thereof, and

(c). the steps taken by the Government to check insurgency effectively in this part of the country?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI. S.B. CHAVAN): (a) to (c): In the States of Assam, Manipur and Nagaland there has been an increase in violent activities, such as ambushes, killings, kidnappings, extortion of money, intimidation etc., on the part of insurgent groups.

The steps taken to check insurgency include, among others, the following:-

1. The Meitei extremist organisation, the National Socialist Council of Nagaland and the United Liberation Front of Assam have been declared unlawful under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.

2. Under the Armed forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958, the following areas have been declared as 'disturbed areas'.

(i) Whole of Assam and Manipur.

(ii) 5 km. belt in Nagaland and Tripura and Changlang districts of Arunachal Pradesh along Burma border.

3. The State Governments have been